K England - Eliz. Qu.
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THE EFFECT OF THE ACT OF PARliament made (for Reliefe of *the poore*) *in the xliii. yeare of* the Raigne of our Soueraigne Lady Queene Elizabeth.

ABREVIATED AND Collected for easier execution, *especiallie of so much thereof*, as concerneth the Churchwardens and Ouerseers.

Ann: Dyson

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12

BRITISH
MUSEUM

A COLLECTION for easier execution by the Churchwardens and Ouerseers within the seuerall *Wardes and Parishes of London.*

London.

EVery Alderman within his Ward, shal and may do & execute in euery respect, so much as is appointed and allowed by this act to be done and executed by one or two Justices of peace of any County within this Realme.

Alderman.

The Churchwardens of

Churchwardēs.

euery pariſh, and foure, three or
Houſe-holders 4. 3. or 2. two ſubſtantiall houſeholders as ſhall bee thought meet, hauing reſpect to the proportion and greatneſſe of the pariſh, to bee nominated yearely in Eaſter weeke, or within one Moneth after Eaſter, vnder the hand and ſeale of the Alderman of the Ward, ſhall bee called Ouerſeers of the poore of the ſame pariſh.

Ouerſeers.

They or the greater part of them, ſhal take order from time to time, with the conſent of the Alderman of the Ward, for ſetting to worke the children of all ſuch whoſe parents ſhall not by the Churchwardens and Ouerſeers, or the greater part of thē, be thought able

Children worke.

able to keepe and maintaine their children. And also for setting to worke all such persons married or vnmarried, hauing no meanes to maintain them, vse no ordinarie and dayly trade of life to get their liuing by. And also to raise weekely or otherwise (by taxation of euery inhabitant, Parson, Vicar and other, and of euery Occupier of landes, houses, Tithes impropriate or propriations of Tithes in the Parish, in such competent summe and summes of mony, as they shall thinke fitte.) A conuenient stocke of Flaxe, Hempe, Wooll, Thread, Iron and other necessary ware and stuffe to set the poore to worke. And also competent summes

Men and others worke,

Stock of { Flaxe. Hempe Wooll. Threed Irō, &c.

Poore to work

Money or relief of { Lame, impotent. Old. Blind. Poor not able to worke.

of money, for and towardes the reliefe of the Lame, impotent, old, blind, and such other beeing poore, and not able to worke. And also for putting such children to bee Apprentices, to bee gathered out of the same parish, according to the abilitie of the parrish, and to doe and execute all other things, as wel for the disposing of the stock, as otherwise concerning the premisses as to them shall seeme conuenient: which Churchwardens and Ouerseers, or such of them as shal not be let by sickness, or other iust excuse to bee allowed by the Alderman, shall meet at the least once euery moneth in the church on sunday in the afternoon, after diuine seruice there

Apprentices &c.

Meete once a Moneth in the Church on Sunday.

Course to bee taken.

there to consider of some good course to bee taken, and meete order to bee set downe in the premisses. And shall within foure dayes after the ende of their yeare, and after other Ouerseers nominated, make and yeelde vp to the Alderman a true and perfect accompt of al summes of money by them receiued, or rated and assessed and not receiued, and also of such stocke, as shall be in their handes, or in the handes of any of the poore to worke, and of all other thinges concerning the saide office. And such summe or summes of money, as shall bee in their handes shall pay and deliuer ouer to the Churchwardens and Ouerseers newly nomi-

Accompt.

Peynes, xxs.

nated and appointed, vppon peyne, that euery of them absenting themselues without lawfull cause from such monethly meeting for the purpose aforesaid, or being negligent in their office, or in the execution of the orders aforesaide, being made with the assent of the Alderman, forfeite for euery such default of absence or negligence, xx.s.

Parish not able

If the Alderman perceiue that the inhabitantes of any parrish are not able to leuie among them sufficient summes of money for the purpose aforesaid, then the Alderman shall and may taxe, rate, and assesse any other of other parishes within the Warde, where

where that parish is to paye such summe and sums of money to the Churchwardens and Ouerseers of that parish as the Alderman shall thinke fitte according to the entent of this law.

If the Warde shall not be thought to the Alderman able and fitte, to relieue the parishes not able to prouide for them selues, Then the Justices of Peace at their generall Sessions, or the greater number of them shall rate and assesse any other of other Parishes, within the Cittie for the purposes aforesaid, as in their discretion shall seeme fitte. Ward not abl

Generall Ses ons.

It shall be lawfull as wel for Distresse.

for the preſent as ſubſequent Churchwardens and Ouerſeers, or any of them by warrant from the Alderman to leuie aſwell the ſaid ſummes of money, and all Arerages of euery one that ſhall refuſe to contribute as they ſhall bee aſſeſſed, by diſtreſſe and ſale of the offenders goods, as the ſummes of money or ſtocke, which ſhall bee behind vppon any accompt, rendring to the parties the ouerplus, and in defect of ſuch diſtreſſe, it ſhall bee lawfull for the Alderman to commit him or them to the common Gaole, there to remaine without Bayle or Mayneriſe, vntill payment of the ſaide ſumme, Arerages and ſtocke.

Arerages of contribution.

Money or ſtocke behind.

Defect of diſtreſſe.

Imprisonment.

The

The Alderman to send to the house of correction or common Gaole, such as shall not employ themselues to worke, being appointed thereunto as aforesaid: and the Alderman to commit to the said prison euery of the Church wardens and Ouerseers, which shall refuse to accompt, there to remaine without Bayle or Mainprise, vntil he haue made a true accompt and paid so much as vpon accompt shall remayne in his hands.

Failing to worke, Gaole &c.

Refuse to accompt.

Imprisonmen

It shall bee lawfull for the Churchwardens and Ouerseers, or the greater part of them by assent of the Alderma to binde any such children as aforesaid to bee Apprentices, where

Apprentices.

where they shall see conuenient, till such manchilde shall come to the age of 24. yeares, and such womanchilde to the age of 21. yeares, or the time of her marriage. The same to bee as effectuall to all purposes, as if such childe were of full age, and by Indenture of couenant bounde him or her selfe.

Manchild,

Woman child.

If any person or persons shal find themselues agreeued with taxe or other Act done by the Churchwardens or others, or by the Alderman, then it shall be lawfull for the Justices of Peace at their generall quarter Sessions, or the greater number of them, to take such order therein as to them shall be

Persons grieued with taxe,

Generall Sessions,

shalbe thought conuenient, and the same to conclude and binde all the partyes.

The Father and Grandfather, and the Mother and Grandmother, and the childre of euery poore, old, blind lame, and impotent person, or other poore person not able to worke, being of sufficient ability, shal at their owne charges relieue and maintaine euery such poore person in that manner, and according to that rate, as by the Iustices of Peace of the Cittie, or the greater number of them at their generall quarter Sessions, shall bee assessed, vpon paine that euery of them shal forfeite xx s. for euery moneth which they shal faile

Father and Grandfather, Mother and Grandmother.

Paine xx s.

faile therein.

Pariſh parte in the Cittie, and part in the Countrey.

If any partiſh lye parte within the Liberties of this Citty and part without, then alſwell the Juſtices of the Peace of the County, as alſo the Alderman of the Warde ſhall deale and intermeddle onely in ſo much of the partiſh, as lyeth within their Liberties and not any further. And euery of them reſpectiuely within their ſeuerall lymittes, wardes and iuriſdictions to execute the ordinances before mentioned, concerning the nomination of Ouerſeers, the conſent to binding Apprentices, the giuing warrant to leuy tarations vnpaid, the taking accompt of Churchwardens and

and Ouerseers, and the committing to prison such as refuse to accompt, or deny to pay the Arerages due vpon their accomptes.

In like manner may bee done concerning Parrishes deuided in seuerall Wardes in London. Parishes in diuers wardes.

The Churchwardens & Ouerseers, or the most part of them, of the parishes that extend into such seuerall lymits and iurisdictions, shall without deuiding themselues duely execute their office in all places, within the parish in all thinges to them belonging, and shall duelie exhibite and make one accompt before Parishes extending into seuerall limits. Accompts seuerall.

the Alderman, and one other before the Iustices of Peace, or any two of them, whereof one to bee of the Quorum, or seuerall accomptes before seuerall Aldermen, for so much of the parish, as lyeth in euery seuerall Ward.

Default of nomination of Ouerseers.

If in any place within this citty there happen to bee no nomination of Ouerseers, euery Alderman where such default shall happen, shall forfeite for euerie default vl. to be employed towards the reliefe of the poore of the parish, to bee leuyed of their goodes by warrant from the generall Sessions of the Peace.

Forfeyture v l.

All penalties and forfeytures

tures before mentioned in this act to be forfeyted, shall go and be employed to the vse of the poore of the parish, & towards a stocke and habitation for them and other necessary vses and relieke as before in this act are expressed, and shall bee leuied by the said Churchwardens and Ouerseers, or one of them by warrant from the Alderman, by distresse and sale thereof, or in defect thereof, it shalbe lawfull for the Alderman to commit the offendor to the said prison, there to remayne without Bayle or Mayneprise, till the forfeyture shall be payde. Forfeytures. Imployment. Distresse. Imprisonment.

If any action of trespasse or other sute shall bee brought Action.

againſt any perſon or perſons, for taking any diſtres, making any ſale, or any other thing doing by authority of this act: the defendant or defendantes in any ſuch action or ſute ſhall and may eyther pleade not guilty or otherwiſe make auowrie, cogniſance or Juſtification for taking diſtreſſes, making ſale, or other thing doing, by vertue of this Act, alleadging in ſuch auowrie, cogniſance, or iuſtification, that the diſtreſſe, ſale, treſpaſſe or other thing, wherof the plantiffe complayned, was done by authority of this Act, and according to the tenor, purport and effect of this act without any expreſſing or rehearſal of any other matter of circumſtance contayned in this act.

Juſtification.

To

To which auowry, cognisance or iustification, the plaintiffe shall bee admitted to reply, that the defendant did take the distresse, made the sale, or did any other act or trespasse, supposed in his declaration of his owne wrong, without any such cause alleadged by the defendant: whereupon the issue in euerie such action shall be ioyned to be tryed by verdict of twelue men and not otherwise, as is accustomed in other personall actions. And vppon the tryall of that issue the whole matter to bee giuen on both parties in euidence, according to the verie truth of the same. And after such issue tryed for the defendant, or nonsute of the Plantiffe

Replication.

Issue.

Treble damages.

tiffe after apparance, the defendant to recouer treble damages by reason of his wrongful veration, with his costes also. And that to bee assessed by the same Jury, or writte to enquire of the damages, as the same shall require. Prouided that this Act shall endure no longer then to the end of the next Session of Parliament.

FINIS.

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